(b) if so, the details of cases reported during the last three years; year-wise, Airlines-wise;

(c) the action taken in each of these cases; and

(d) the preventive measures taken by Government to avoid such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The details of theft cases reported during the last three years in Air India and Indian Airlines are as under:—

Year	*Air India*	*Indian Airlines*
2003	02	01
2004	01	02
2005	01	01

In these cases employees were found to be in possession of items belonging to Air India and Indian Airlines etc.

The guilty employees were awarded punishments depending on the gravity of theft *viz.* reduction to a lower pay scale in the time scale/issue of warning.

(d) As and when such cases are reported, stringent disciplinary action is taken against the erring staff. They are also kept off flying duties pending enquiry, which entails loss of flying allowance. Security personnel are deployed near the aircraft to maintain strict surveillance of employees entering/leaving the aircraft. Discreet surveillance is maintained in all areas, including baggage make up/break up areas, check-in counters, cargo warehouses to prevent theft.

Upgradation of airports in Madhya Pradesh

†1494. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to upgrade a number of airports to the international level;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the number of airports out of this in Madhya Pradesh proposed to be upgraded to international level and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of projects proposed in Madhya Pradesh are pending for clearance with Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Upgradation of airports into International airports in the country including those in Madhya Pradesh is contingent on various factors such as requirement of airline operators, traffic demand, availability of land, customs, immigration, plant and animal quarantine facilities etc. and is considered from time to time taking into account various factors involved.

(b) The infrastructure facilities at the three airports at Bhopal, Indore and Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh are proposed to be upgraded. Although, declaration as International airports will depend on factors mentioned at (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Permission to Jet Airways for US Operation

1495. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a National Policy on Civil Aviation is being drafted/under consideration of Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that questions of permitting domestic private airlines to operate globally will be addressed in the new policy;

(c) if so, what are the reasons that Government have permitted Jet Airways for operating to USA and UK even before the finalisation of the aviation policy;

(d) whether US Government have not allowed Jet Airways to land there on account of dubious track record of the airlines; and